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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, JAN. 30, 1865.—Laid on the table and ordered to be printed.

[By the CHAIR.]

RESOLUTIONS

Adopted by the Officers and Men of the 57th Virginia Regiment.

HEAD QUARTERS, 57TH VA. INFANTRY,
January 26, 1865.

The following resolutions were read to, and adopted by the officers and men of the fifty-seventh Virginia Regiment, this day :

Whereas the long continuance of the bloody struggle in which we have been engaged during the last four years, for liberty, independence, and all the sacred rights dear to men; the many sacrifices which the army and people have been called upon to make in the prosecution of the war; the many trials and dangers which beset us upon every side—and above all, the reverses which have recently befallen us—disaster after disaster having followed each other in rapid succession—have caused some of our people to hesitate, to falter in the brave, proud course which has hitherto been marked out for them, and even to think of retracing their steps, of recanting their declaration of independence from the accursed Yankee despotism which once enthralled us; and actually to dream of submission to that enemy who has been guilty of the most fiendish outrages and cruelties; has desolated and destroyed our country, and committed every barbarity recorded in the past annals of rapacity, wrong and rapine. Therefore, for the benefit of all such weak-minded and misguided men, whether in the army or out of it, by the veterans of the 57th Regiment of Virginia Infantry, who have, during the whole war, been breasting every danger, and always ready to discharge their duty to their country and her sacred cause :

1. Be it resolved, That now is no time to dream of submission and reconstruction, when the enemy is at our very door; when the blood of our brothers, our sons and our fathers call upon us for vengeance; when their bones lie bleaching on every hill-top and valley, from the blood-stained heights of Gettysburg to the placid waters of the Rio Grande; while the shrieks of our insulted women ring ever in our ear; while the smoke of a whole country, consumed and desolated, yet hangs over the lovely Valley of the Shenandoah, and when the flames which destroyed the whole of Central Georgia have scarce died out.

2. Resolved, That in such a condition of things as now reigns in our beloved country, to abandon the struggle, and surrender the cause which all have so long been engaged in defending, would be acts of the basest cowardice, and would not only cause our ruin as a people, together with the loss of our national self-respect, and all that we hold dear, but also consign us and our children to a bondage and slavery which would be insupportably base and degrading, and hand us and our posterity down to the latest time, coupled with an infamy to which any thing—even annihilation itself—were far preferable.

3. Resolved, That we take occasion to express our unbounded confidence in that great and glorious patriot, General R. E. Lee, who has so often led us to victory, and our belief that if sustained by the people, the government and army, he will lead us again to victory and success, and crown our efforts with an honorable independence and lasting peace; that we again dedicate ourselves to the cause, and express our determination to fight to the last, to gain our freedom, or perish in the attempt.

4. Resolved, That a copy of this preamble and resolutions be forwarded to the Richmond papers for publication; also to the Virginia Legislature and Confederate Congress.

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

C. R. FONTAINE, *Col.*

HON. THOS. S. BOGOCK—*Richmond, Va.*

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